

**JUDITH:** Keep it up and I'll show you cruel and unusual punishment.

**GLENN:** Who are you, Vito Corleone? What are you going to do, press the intercom and get Luca Brasi in here to throw me out?

**JUDITH:** Don't flatter yourself. I wouldn't bother my staff for such a trivial disposal.

*(They are leaning across the desk almost nose to nose.)*

**GLENN:** You know lady, you have some serious problems. You don't need an assistant, you need a keeper.

**JUDITH:** And you need to find the door.

*(Silence.)*

**GLENN:** I'm outta here.

*(They stare at each other for a few more seconds, then GLENN turns and heads for the door. Right as he gets there, JUDITH yells for him.)*

**JUDITH:** HEY!

**GLENN:** WHAT!

**JUDITH:** YOU START MONDAY!

**GLENN:** FINE!

**JUDITH:** NINE O'CLOCK!

**GLENN:** OK!

*(He storms out and she goes back to work.)*

## 12. The Jumpers

*(On the ledge of a building. #1 is standing there. Obviously not in the best mood, #1 is contemplating his/her next (and probably final) move. #1 yells out.)*

**#1:** I told you all to go away! I'm not doing this for your entertainment. *(To him/her self)* I thought this was supposed to be a private moment.

*(Just then #2 enters on the ledge. #1 & #2 are looking in opposite directions. Finally they spot each other, scream, start to lose their balance and finally catch themselves.)*

**#2:** Ahhh! You scared the hell out of me!

**#1:** You?! What about me?! You almost made me fall.

**#2:** Well...you should have been watching.

**#1:** Who are you? I told them not to send anyone up here. I said I'd jump if they did.

**#2:** Fine. Go ahead and jump. I'm not up here to save your sorry butt.

**#1:** Then who are you and what are you doing up here?

**#2:** *(Pause)* I was in my office and it looked liked such a nice day that I thought I'd go for a walk. *(Pause)* What do you think I'm doing here?

**#1:** You're planning on jumping?

**#2:** Nothing gets by you, does it?

**#1:** Well I'm sorry. You can't. At least not here.

**#2:** *(Looks at #1.)* And pray tell why not?

**#1:** Because I was here first.

**#2:** What are you saying, this is a "first come, first jump" ledge? Fine, go ahead. Far be it from me to steal your thunder.

**#1:** That's not the point! I'd like to be alone. Why don't you go somewhere else.

**#2:** I was somewhere else. I was on the other side of the building.

#1: So what are you doing here?  
 #2: It got too crowded on the street over there. Plus, they kept yelling "Jump! Jump!"  
 #1: Really? They haven't done that here.  
 #2: How long have you been out here?  
 #1: About half an hour.  
 #2: Give them another fifteen minutes. They'll start. They get bored if there's no action. That's why I came here.  
 #1: Well, you can't stay. I can't do this if somebody is watching.  
 #2: Who do you think's down on the street. A convention of blind people?  
 #1: That's different. They're...not in the immediate vicinity.  
 #2: Yeah, well, live with it! I'm not moving.  
 #1: *(Pause)* As long as you're here, I suppose it's OK if you stay.  
 #2: How nice. You're letting me stay. What are you, the Mayor of the ledge?  
 #1: Boy, you're not very nice.  
 #2: I'm sorry. I've had a lousy day.  
*(There is a silence as both #1 & #2 look around. #2 notices something from far below.)*  
 #1: I think they're yelling something. Can you make it out?  
 #2: Yeah, they're yelling "Jump!" I told you they'd start.  
 #1: Maybe it's just the people that followed you.  
 #2: Whatever.  
 #1: You know, that really is pretty sick. Don't those people have anything better to do?  
 #2: Apparently not. What do you expect? It's just another day in the "big city."  
 #1: They're probably the same jerks who stop on the freeway to gawk at an accident. *(They both chuckle a bit. Then there is a silence.)* So, why are you up here?  
 #2: You gonna write my life story?  
 #1: Oh, come on. If you tell me why you're here, I'll tell you why I'm here.  
 #2: Great. I'm literally about to jump into the great beyond

and I'm gonna spend my last minutes on earth playing, "I'll show you mine, if you show me yours."  
 #1: Never mind! Forget I said anything.  
 #2: OK, I'm sorry. Why are you up here?  
 #1: My girlfriend/boyfriend dumped me.  
 #2: And?  
 #1: And...nothing.  
 #2: Nothing. You're going to kill yourself because you got dumped?  
 #1: Are you saying that's not good enough?  
 #2: To tell the truth, it is pretty lame.  
 #1: And I suppose your reason is so much better.  
 #2: It's not even a contest.  
 #1: Fine, tell me.  
 #2: OK, if you want to know so badly. I got up this morning and my cat was run over by a truck, I was mugged and robbed on the subway on the way to work, I just found out my partner embezzled all the funds from our business, my wife/husband just called and told me he's/she's realized he/she is in love with our mail carrier, the IRS wants to audit me, and to top it off, I think I'm getting a cold sore on my lip.  
 #1: Cold sore?  
 #2: It was just the final straw.  
 #1: Wow. That is terrible.  
 #2: And it's not even lunch time yet.  
 #1: And you think this is the best way out?  
 #2: All you did was get dumped and you do.  
 #1: That's different. It really hurt.  
 #2: Oh, please. "It really hurt." I can't believe I'm out here with such an amateur.  
 #1: But I really loved him/her.  
 #2: And there's no one else out there?  
 #1: Not like him/her.  
 #2: Have you looked? *(Pause)* No, I'm sure you haven't. The

## 13. The Medium

*(In a house. There is a MEDIUM sitting at a table. Peering into a crystal ball and dealing tarot cards.)*

- first little setback and you want to chuck it all.
- #1: What about you? Things could be worse.
- #2: Really? Let see, I've got no business, no money, no spouse, probably no mail now, no cat, I'm going to jail, and this cold sore really hurts. Suicide will be the best thing that could happen.
- #1: You know, listening to you, I guess things aren't that bad for me. *(Pause)* Do you really think I can find someone else?
- #2: Let me put it this way, if you jumped right now, you'd probably splatter on twenty or thirty single men/women down there.
- #1: You know, you're right!
- #2: Well hurrah for me.
- #1: No, really. He/she wasn't good enough for me. I can find someone else. Maybe a hundred times better. He/she isn't worth my life.
- #2: Yeah, yeah, I'm very happy for you, but you want to keep it down. Some of us still have business up here.
- #1: Are you sure?
- #2: Yeah, just go.
- #1: OK, but I'll never be able to thank you enough. You've saved my life.
- #2: Then shut up before I regret it.
- #1: OK, I'm going. *(Starts to inch off the ledge. Then stops.)* I'll never forget you.
- #2: Please do. This is not how I'd like to be remembered. Have a good life. *(#1 exits. #2 turns to see if #1 is finally gone, then reaches into his/her pocket and pulls out a cellular phone and dials.)* Yeah chief, he's/she's left. *(Pause)* Hey, I'm sorry it took long. *(Pause)* If you don't like it, find someone else to do this! *(Pause)* Yeah, OK. One last question, how do I get down from here?!

- MEDIUM: Please enter and feel welcome. *(The CLIENT comes in and looks around.)* Please, sit down. *(The CLIENT sits.)* I am Zolton/Madam Zolton. How can I help you?
- CLIENT: I'm not sure if you can.
- MEDIUM: Have you ever sought help from one such as me before?
- CLIENT: No I haven't. A friend of mine came to you and suggested I come.
- MEDIUM: And who is your friend?
- CLIENT: Mary Rogers.
- MEDIUM: Yes, lovely Mary. I helped her get in touch with her departed brother.
- CLIENT: I know. I was hoping you could help me too.
- MEDIUM: I can only do my best. And who do you want to reach Mr./Miss...
- CLIENT: Parker. My great-great grandmother. I've been doing some research on my family and I heard she was a fascinating woman. I'd love to see if I could get in touch with her.
- MEDIUM: We will do our best. I do have to tell you one thing. To get in touch with someone who passed on several generations ago, is much more difficult than communicating with someone recently departed.
- CLIENT: Why is that?
- MEDIUM: Those who are longer passed on, are more settled in the afterlife and are not always as willing to reconnect with the living world. It may take a few sessions.